

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An image forming apparatus, comprising:
an image forming section; and
a sheet feed apparatus aligned to feed a sheet to the image forming section and
comprising
a sheet feed roller in pressing contact with an uppermost sheet of a plurality of
sheets, and
a tilt member opposing the sheet feed roller, said tilt member including
a contact face in pressing contact with the sheet feed roller, and
a tilt face in contact with an edge of the uppermost sheet, said tilt face
and said contact face each comprising one of
polybutylene terephthalate (PBT),
polyethylene (PE),
~~metal,~~
poly-ether-ether-ketone (PEEK), and
polyimide (PI).

Claim 2 (Original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said
tilt face and said contact face each comprise polybutylene terephthalate (PBT).

Claim 3 (Original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said
tilt face and said contact face each comprise polyethylene (PE).

Claim 4 (Cancelled).

Claim 5 (Original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said tilt face and said contact face each comprise poly-ether-ether-ketone (PEEK).

Claim 6 (Original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said tilt face and said contact face each comprise polyimide (PI).

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said tilt face and said contact face each comprise a metal alloy including one of:

polybutylene terephthalate (PBT),
polyethylene (PE),
~~metal~~,
poly-ether-ether-ketone (PEEK), and
polyimide (PI).

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said entire tilt member comprises at least one of:

polybutylene terephthalate (PBT);
polyethylene (PE);
~~metal~~;
poly-ether-ether-ketone (PEEK); and
polyimide (PI).

Claim 9 (Original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said tilt member comprises:

a support member comprising at least one of

ABS resin;
polyacetal (POM);
polybutylene terephthalate (PBT); and
polycarbonate (PC).

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A sheet feed apparatus, comprising:

a sheet feed roller in pressing contact with an uppermost sheet of a plurality of sheets;

and

a tilt member opposing the sheet feed roller, said tilt member including

a contact face in pressing contact with the sheet feed roller, and

a tilt face in contact with an edge of the uppermost sheet, said tilt face and said

contact face each comprising one of

polybutylene terephthalate (PBT),
polyethylene (PE),
~~metal~~,
poly-ether-ether-ketone (PEEK), and
polyimide (PI).

Claim 11 (Original): The sheet feed apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said tilt face and said contact face each comprise polybutylene terephthalate (PBT).

Claim 12 (Original): The sheet feed apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said tilt face and said contact face each comprise polyethylene (PE).

Claim 13 (Cancelled).

Claim 14 (Original): The sheet feed apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said tilt face and said contact face each comprise poly-ether-ether-ketone (PEEK).

Claim 15 (Original): The sheet feed apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said tilt face and said contact face each comprise polyimide (PI).

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): The sheet feed apparatus according to claim 10, said entire tilt member comprising at least one of:

polybutylene terephthalate (PBT);
polyethylene (PE);
~~metal~~;
poly-ether-ether-ketone (PEEK); and
polyimide (PI).

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A face for use in a sheet separator tilt member of a sheet feed apparatus, comprising:

a face comprising one of
polybutylene terephthalate (PBT),
polyethylene (PE),
~~metal~~,
poly-ether-ether-ketone (PEEK), and
polyimide (PI),

wherein the face is at least one of a contact face and a tilt face.

Claim 18 (Original): The face according to claim 17, wherein said face comprises polybutylene terephthalate (PBT).

Claim 19 (Original): The face according to claim 17, wherein said face comprises polyethylene (PE).

Claim 20 (Cancelled).

Claim 21 (Original): The face according to claim 17, wherein said face comprises poly-ether-ether-ketone (PEEK).

Claim 22 (Original): The face according to claim 17, wherein said face and said contact face each comprises polyimide (PI).

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): A sheet feed apparatus, comprising:
means for sequentially feeding sheets to an imaging device; and
means for separating individual sheets with a tilt member comprising a tilt face and a contact face each comprising one of

polybutylene terephthalate (PBT),

polyethylene (PE),

metal,

poly-ether-ether-ketone (PEEK), and

polyimide (PI).

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): In a method for feeding sheets to an imaging device,
the improvement comprising:

separating individual sheets with a tilt member comprising a tilt face and a contact
face each comprising one of:

polybutylene terephthalate (PBT),
polyethylene (PE),
~~metal,~~
poly-ether-ether-ketone (PEEK), and
polyimide (PI).

Claim 25 (Original): The method according to claim 24, wherein said tilt face and
said contact face each comprise polybutylene terephthalate (PBT).

Claim 26 (Original): The method according to claim 24, wherein said tilt face and
said contact face each comprise polyethylene (PE).

Claim 27 (Cancelled).

Claim 28 (Original): The method according to claim 24, wherein said tilt face and
said contact face each comprise poly-ether-ether-ketone (PEEK).

Claim 29 (Original): The method according to claim 24, wherein said tilt face and
said contact face each comprise polyimide (PI).

Claim 30 (New): The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said one of polybutylene terephthalate (PBT), polyethylene (PE), poly-ether-ether-ketone (PEEK), and polyimide (PI) is mixed with a glass fiber.